

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 00028 020805Z

16 S

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 EUR-12

/075 W

----- 086982

O 020740Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8556

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 0028

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR PINT C A

SUFN: RUMORED DEATH OF SENIOR PRC OFFICIAL

1. SWISS CONSUL GENERAL CALLED THIS AFTERNOON TO INFORM US THAT HE HAD HEARD FROM A SOURCE AT JARDINES THAT MAO TSE-TUNG DIED NIGHT OF JANUARY 1. SINCE THESE RUMORS CROP UP FROM TIME TO TIME, WE DID NOT TAKE STORY SERIOUSLY. HOWEVER, TIME BUREAU CHIEF ROY ROWAN HAS JUST CALLED TO SAY THAT A BANK OF CHINA OFFICIAL TOLD ONE OF HIS (ROWAN'S) STAFF THIS AFTERNOON THAT A SENIOR PRC OFFICIAL HAS DIED. HE WAS CHECKING TO SEE IF HE HAD HEARD ANYTHING.

2. STORY IS STILL VERY TENUOUS, BUT THOUGHT WE WOULD ALERT YOU IN CASE YOU MIGHT WISH TO LOOK AROUND PEKING FOR ANY SIGNS OF UNUSUAL ACTIVITY. "A SENIOR CHINESE OFFICIAL", OF COURSE, MIGHT MORE LIKELY BE CHOU EN-LAI.
CROSS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, DEATHS, POLITICAL LEADERS
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Draft Date: 02 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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